

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the present application in view of the present preliminary amendments to the claims and specification.

Applicants note that a first Preliminary Amendment was filed on October 13, 2005.

Status of the Claims

In the present Reply, claims 1-8 and 28 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-28 are pending in the present application.

No new matter has been added by way of these amendments because each amendment is supported by the present specification and/or editorial in nature. For example, the amendment to claim 1 has support in the present specification at least at page 3, lines 3-4; page 26, lines 26-28; and the various ingredients recited at pages 12-26. Further, the amendments to claims 2-6 are for proper antecedent basis as these claims depend on claim 1. Also, the amendments to claims 7-8 are supported in the present specification at page 2, lines 19-25. Finally, the amendment to claim 28 corrects a grammatical error. Given the nature of these amendments, Applicants thus preserve any equivalents regarding the amended features.

No new matter has been added with the amendment to the present specification as this amendment corrects a typographical error.

Based on the above considerations, entry of the present Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

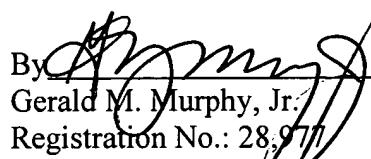
Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. (Reg. No. 28,977) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: MAY 17 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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